

Lego Lab Lesson – Four-Ring Circus (45 minutes)

Learning Goal: I will be able to use observational skills to build for a purpose.

Learning Activity: My team and I will create 1 ring of a 4 Ring Circus. We will look at our type of animal and create a circus trick for it to perform. What type of animal do we have? How many legs does it have? How does it move? Is it fast or slow? Can an elephant do the same kind of trick that a performing seal does? Also, we will construct a set of “bleachers” outside of the ring for the people to sit on and watch the show. What are bleachers? How can they be made from Duplo? How high will we make them? Don't forget that you can use the pre test prior to coming to the Lego lab as well as the post test when you go back to your classroom. We do encourage you to use these tools as a way to track learning in the lab. You will want to group students in 4 groups.

The story is about a circus and instead of a book, we'll watch DEA Streaming **I Spy: Circus Things in All Three Rings**. However, there is a book available for “picture ideas”. The DEA Streaming clip should be set up on the computer/projector and saved under favorites. The video is approximately 12 minutes long. This week assign each group a brick corner that has one hula hoop. One type of circus animal (horses, elephants, tigers, or seals) should be in among the bricks, along with some regular “people” and two circus-type people. PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE

THE BOOK FROM THE LAB AS IT IS CHECKED OUT TO ME OR SUSAN!! I don't want to pay for any lost books!

Suggested delivery of lesson: (gauge your time to allow most time for building)

- Go over learning goal
- Ask students if they have ever attended a circus. Discuss – what was it like? What animals did you see? What did the animals and people in the circus do? Show the DEA Streaming clip. Talk about the different things shown. Tell students that their assignment this week is to create one “ring” of a four ring circus. They will build the circus “act” inside of the hula hoop. They must look at the animals they have and decide what kind of circus trick that animal can do. How can the two circus “people” help the animal do the trick? Also tell them that they will need to build a set of bleachers outside of the circle for the circus-goers to sit in. Talk about what bleachers look like and how they can be built with DUPLO. Assign students corners, and provide them with the correct poster. Allow students to build and then visit each “ring” for the show!